



## MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

September 7, 2022

Washoe County Senior Center, Reno, Nevada 89512  
Game Room  
&  
Zoom Webinar

<https://zoom.us/j/92347908306?pwd=K2k5UGdYSEVXVGNuRGFPZ3pub2kwQT09>

**1. CALL TO ORDER [Non-Action Item]** - Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair- Hawah Ahmad.

**2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM [Non-Action Item]** – Hawah Ahmad asked for the roll call; Sandra Vasquez took the roll. There was a quorum present via in person and through Zoom meeting.

### WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

#### PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Martha Lavin  
Mavis Kay Bonzer  
Kodandaraman  
Venkataraman  
Jane Baudelaire

Pamela Roberts  
Hawah Ahmad  
Mark Neumann

#### ABSENT (EXCUSED\*)

\* Thuy Tran  
Ethan Hovest  
\*Linda Hardie -Resigned  
\* Mary Ann McCauley  
Casey Reed

### WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Steve McBride  
Brandon Roman

Herbert Kaplan (DA)  
Sandra Vasquez

### ADVISOR PRESENT

Dr. Larry Weiss

### ADVISOR (ABSENT)

Donna Clontz  
Connie McMullen  
Victoria Edmondson

### 3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item] –

Michael Clark, candidate for Washoe County Commission District 2 states he is looking for information and a budget for seniors in the county, which make about 20% of the population, who spend about \$9 million. He is comparing those numbers with the homeless population.

Also, he is also looking at Animal Services, who spends over \$13 million and he is interested in evening out those numbers.

Debbie Gunderman, from Washoe County Library System, wanted to let everyone know they have the new Explorer out and it is viewable to the public. They also now have 'Book a Librarian' where they can book up to 1 hour with a librarian to get help with online things. They are also starting their homebound service, where they can help homebound people get books and pick them out. There is also a technology service going around because they are looking for feedback from the people on how they can do more for the people, specifically the seniors.

**4. Member Announcements [Non-Action Item] –**

Hawah states there is an event happening at the Washoe County Senior Center for body balance, from 10am to 3pm. Also, Thuy Tran has organized an Alzheimer's Walk, if someone would like to join, they can join as individuals, she will also be talking at the Newcomers Club at their March meeting. Hawah states that Senior Fest looked good.

Mark Neumann states he was at an August 23 meeting where they were offering low rates for seniors.

**5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting of September 7, 2022 [For Possible Action]**

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by deleting item 8 and amending item 15 for the addition of the new vacancy in District 3 was made by Martha Lavin and seconded by Pam Roberts. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting of August 3, 2022 [For Possible Action]**

Motion to approve the minutes as amended for item 7 was made by Pamela Roberts and seconded by Martha Lavin. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada presentation regarding their non-profit for home repairs and modification work to the community [Non-Action Item] – Katie Pace, Executive Director**

**Attachment:** [Rebuild Together Northern NV \(washoecounty.gov\)](https://www.washoecounty.gov)  
[Flyer Making Homes Safe\\_rev 5-7-22 \(washoecounty.gov\)](https://www.washoecounty.gov)  
[RTNNV Highlight of Activities as of 7.31.22 \(washoecounty.gov\)](https://www.washoecounty.gov)  
[RTNNV 2022 Tri-fold \(washoecounty.gov\)](https://www.washoecounty.gov)

Katie presents on Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada (see attachment). The focus of the organization is to make repairs for homes that belong to seniors without any charge so they can age in place. In 2019, they took up the challenge since they saw a need for this service. What they find is that they provide safety to seniors and they serve Carson and Washoe County. To be eligible, the senior must be a homeowner and provide proof of income that would fall under the income guidelines. The organization has stakeholders and partners, which makes it possible to do projects. A good way to help is to become a volunteer. Home repairs average \$7,500 and applications can be found online.

**8. Nevada National Association of Residential Property Managers (N.A.R.P.M.) presentation regarding the state organization for property managers [Non-Action Item] – Donna Harkins, Realtor and Property Manager**

Presenter not present.

**9. Northern Nevada Legal Aid presentation regarding legal services provided to the senior community [Non-Action Item] – Maggie Moon, Attorney**

**Attachment:** [Southern Nevada Senior Law Program \(washoecounty.gov\)](http://washoecounty.gov)  
[Meet the SLC.png \(1545x2000\) \(washoecounty.gov\)](http://washoecounty.gov)

Maggie presents on Northern Nevada Legal Aid (NNLA), previously known as Washoe Legal Services (see attachment). NNLA provides free legal services to seniors. There is a process that the senior has to go through so the lawyers can provide their service. They offer a variety of services/representation, but sometimes have to send people to other community partners. Their main office is in on Arlington and they have an office at the Reno senior center. Most of their cases are about housing, such as issues with a lease.

**10. Update and report on Sparks Center Project, Homemaker waitlist, and Fan Drive final numbers provided by WCHSA Senior Services Division [Non-Action Item] – Steve McBride, Division Director**

**Attachment:** [9-7-22 Sparks Closure Flyer.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](http://washoecounty.gov)

Steve reports Sparks center has started remodeling and has a tentative reopening of October 5<sup>th</sup>. New chairs for the center have been purchased and while the center is closed, meals are still being offered for To Go. Steve states there was a typo on the homemaker report of how many people are on the homemaker waitlist, instead of 468 it's 368; as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, it's 401 people on the waitlist. They are pursuing a potential vendor for Daybreak so that they are able to use staff for an in-home homemaker program. Also, with the Fan Drive, it was extended for a week and as of today, they have received 923 fans and have handed out 910.

**11. Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee [Non-Action Item] – Donald Abbott**

Donald states he was super excited about Senior Fest. One of the big things they were able to accomplish was handing out their AARP survey and they also passed out their newsletter. They have Alternate spots for the Board, if anyone is interested, please reach out to him. Their previous Board meeting had wonderful presentations which included an Alzheimer's presentation.

**12. Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee [Non-Action Item] – Paco Lachoy**

Paco states Senior Fest was great and there were a lot of new seniors. The Board has started to meet, they took the summer off. Paco states at the moment, the closing of Paradise Park is in limbo. There are issues with how things were handled and there are too many holes on how Paradise Park was handled. Paco asks people that if they have an opinion on the issue, to please state it when the meeting happens. Paco would also like to have a conversation with Hawah, Steve, and Abby about Older American Month to see what they did good and what they could do better. Hawah asked for a joint meeting of the 3 boards, Paco stated the Reno Board is not interested in a joint meeting. Paco also states Senior Day at the Aces was great.

**13. Discussion and possible recommendations to the Senior Advisory Board regarding a response, which may be in the form of a letter from the Senior Advisory Board to the City of Reno regarding the City's proposal to discontinue senior activities at Paradise Park [For Possible Action]**

Pam states she participated in the Age Friendly meeting and they talked about how there was a very short window of time given about discussing the closing of Paradise Park. Based on what Pam heard, there was a group of seniors that rallied against closing Paradise Park and the meeting to discuss this was cancelled. Hawah asked who would like to write a letter to state the opposition of closing Paradise Park. Paco stated he hears misinformation about closing of

Paradise Park. Parks and Rec department had an agenda with an action item regarding closing Paradise Park, it was postponed because anything that affects seniors needs to go through the Reno Senior Advisory Board and this had not been done. It was discussed that the financials of Paradise Park don't make sense and there's a lot of question on it and also about how many people actually attend Paradise Park.

Pam makes a motion to write a letter, Herbert Kaplan states, a letter needs to be written and approved by the Board before it is finalized. Hawah states she would like to draft a public comment.

Motion for the Board members to express their public comment regarding keeping open Paradise Park so they can provide services to seniors is to be given to Hawah, Pam, or Martha so that one of them provides public comment at the coming meetings for Paradise Park; meetings will be at Reno Advisory Committee on September 13, Parks and Rec on September 20, and if necessary the Reno City Council meeting on September 28, is made by Pam Roberts and seconded by Mark Neumann. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark states he will also make public comment in the commissioner meeting.

**14. Report and update on letter to Citizen Advisory Boards (CABs) asking for reports on senior issues in unincorporated Washoe County [Non-Action Item]**

Hawah states there still needs to be one more correction on the letter, but she is waiting for the letterhead. Mark and Pam will attend CAB meeting and they will let the CAB members know that a letter will be going to them.

**15. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding appointing a new Advisory Board member for District 4 [For Possible Action]**

Hawah states they have a District 3 opening as well. Mark Neumann is present, and he is an Alternate and would like to be in District 3. Herbert Kaplan asked if anyone has talked to Casey Reed and what district is she from. Sandra Vasquez checked, and Casey is from District 4. Pam states that in the interest of transparency, they can postpone the recommendation for Mark. Herbert stated the Bylaws give preference to the Alternates. Steve stated they can put out the openings, but it depends on what is open and when, since there are no Alternate seats open, but there will be after Mark's recommendation.

Motion to recommend Mark Neumann to District 3 was made by Pam Roberts and seconded by Mavis Kay Bonzer. Motion passed unanimously.

**16. Discussion regarding the Senior Advisory Board having a future meeting at an alternate location [Non-Action Item]**

Hawah asked for item to go next month's agenda as an action item.

**17. Advisory Board Members' announcements, reports and updates to include requests for information or topics for future agendas [Non-Action Item]. (No discussion among Advisory Board Members will take place on this item.)**

Hawah stated Sanford for the Aging is having different activities and Sandra will forward the information to the Board, she would also like an action item for Washoe County to be a partner with Rebuilding Northern Nevada.

Steve will verify the ARPA funding presentation, there will also be a Nutrition presentation.

Pam suggested having a max of 2 presentations per meeting.

**18. Public comment [Non-Action Item]**

Mark Neumann states CAB meetings have 10-minute presentations.

**19. Adjournment [Non-Action Item]**

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.

DRAFT